"GYPSY," A MASS OF DRAMATIC INEPTITUDES, AT A MATINEE.

l'ay Davis Distinguishes Herself as a Morphomaniae Because of Love, but Which Mrs. Ward Might Have Written.

After the first act of "Gypsy" at the Garrick Theatre yesterday afternoon the lobby personal friends of Brother "Gus" Thomaswere told many things by many persons. Here is about the order of information: by Charles Frohman in an unguarded moment. [Napoleon, you know, made mistakes, and they have been set down to mutton by gasping biographers. Perhaps future chroniclers of stage doings in Manhattan will mention "Gypsy" in connection with cold pie. If the pie had been warm Mr. Frohmen might have refused the play.] "Gypsy" is not "Gypsy" at all, said an other informed one, but was called "In Honor Bound"-or was it "A Debt of Honor"? Mr. Frohman was merely avoid- related to John W. Ellis of New York. ing a money forfeit by giving the solitary performance. Not at all, remarked third, "Gypsy" is being tried on the dog What-New York the dog? Jamais de Chienne! Then some one met Clyde Fitch, still overheated from using the exe on his dialogue-or was it on the tale it-self?-of "Glad of It." Mr. Fitch quietly settled the question by telling of a performance he witnessed in London of the piece, called at that time "Honor" something or other, and very well enacted by Fay Days and George Alexander.

The reason all these fatiguing statistics are given is simply because of a case of blue funk on the part of the reviewer He does not conceal his admiration of Miss Davis's delicate art in dubious critical phraseology, and to see her three times running in three hopeless plays has proved too much for the scant supply of human kindness, erroheously supposed to be ink and gall in the veins of a dramatic faultfinder. Really, with the echoes of Mr Thomas's clever comedy ringing in the memory, it is impossible to regard the "Gypsy" as anything but a huge bore. Miss Davis vainly tried to whitewash Lady Rose's daughter's past with Julia's buried naughtiness, and it seems a pity that the supply of calsomine on the brush failed to cover up the awful bareness of Gypsy Floyd's career. the awful bareness of Gypsy Floyd's career. Yet this actress demonstrated her power in at least one act. She is supposed to be the deserted mistress of a selfish, ambitious man who has told her in cold blood that he is about to marry, who leaves her in a pettish rage because she has the tact to conceal her true feelings for him. She out-Zaza's Zuza in her fey indifference to her fate. He believes her to be heartless. This occurs in Act II. Act I. must have leen written by Mrs. Ward, or perhaps by Humphry himself. That neglected man may do a lot of dramatic "devilling" for his overworked spouse. It is bad for his overworked spouse. It is bad enough, bleak enough, to have been written in unfriendly collaboration by the entire Ward household.

legal failure, is in the confidence of the ambitious brute's new wife and also of the abandoned "rag and a bone and a hank of hair." He brings the women together in his usual blundering manner. It happens in the last act, and the situation is one that may be described as "strong"-strong until the forlorn soul takes an overdose of laudanum and dies without revealing the dentity of the man who pays the rent. But he trusting wife has surmised something, Ind her suspicions are confirmed when the reice of her husband—Guy Standing—is wasted to her through a door. He has been stupid enough to call, perhaps from curiosity, perhaps because he was not happy in his new life, despite his professional and social successes. It is a way man has with him. He always blames the woman, not He arrives in time numself. He arrives in time to see Miss Davis die; his wife has escaped by another exit, but returns. In despair, he throws himself upon the corpse. It is Parsijal Tabby Cat's great moment. "Stand off!" he cries. "You had her in life. In death she belears to me!" And the curtain falls n this vampirelike speech. Evidently built up from a one act play.

"Gypsy" is a composite, a mosaic of in-eptitudes. The sympathy aroused for the incroine and her footish acts is speedly quenched by her drug taking. She is another "lost angel," with no Michael of Henry Arthur Jones in sight. She is de-picted as being light hearted and admirable in character, though her ultimate behavior is simply stupid. Miss Davis has too much personal distinction to play the part of a woman who uses had grammar. Her hands are too shapely for a daughter of the slums. No, it won't do, Mr. Grundy. The play is aimed at the tear bags; but to the state of the slums are to wondering why Gunny who what had been what had been when her what had been what had been when her what had been when her what had been wh The play is aimed at the tear bags, but to nly sets us to wondering why Gypsy was such an idiot. If she had been as green as "Merely Mary Ann," her ignorance would have been excusable. The scene between the women, a replica from a dozen French plays, was false, as false as the drug phial in Miss Davis's slender fingers. drug phial in Miss Davis's slender fingers.

Her work in Act II. must be applauded. It sounded a deeper note than we usually hear from this lady. And she did look desperately miserable and ill fed at the close. The tame tabby kept her on skim milk, while the brown cat—pardon the allusion. Miss Rockman; it is by way of illustration—seemed so well nourished. Mr. Standing was observed to shudder when the name of Jacob was uttered; the ghost of Jacob Delajield haunts the Garrick stage. This actor did very well in his accustomed highly burnished style. Mr. Crompton was really alive as a hypocritical Crompton was really alive as a hypocritical parson with an ample billiard technique and Ray Rockman was the sympathetic wife with the charitable, prowling habits. Edgar Selwyn quite captured the suffrages of his audience by his impersonation of the friend of the two families. The character friend of the two families. The character recalls in an oblique fashion an attempted mixture of Cayley Drummle and that memorable busybody Croker Harrington in Mr. Pinero's "Iris." Mr. Sprague was Sir Jacob Holyruyd, and George Irving played a disappointed lover—though why disappointed only Mr. Grundy knows. We have seen "Gypsy" and we don't like it. The joke is old, but there are times when we think Sydney might be called Mrs. Grundy.

#### FROHMAN HIRES COLLIER And Will Star Him in the New R. H. Davis Play, "The Dictator."

Charles Frohman announced last night that he had signed a five-year contract with William Collier. On Feb. 8 he will present Collier in a new play in Boston entitled "The Dictator," by Richard Harding Davis. The play is said to be founded on a South American revolution. Collier is now playing in "A Fool and His Money" in Boston. When he ends his stay there, he will immediately begin rehearsals of the

new play It cost Weber & Fields upward of \$50,000 to star Collier this season. He had two failures at the Bijou and then took up the old play he is now using. He was playing in "On the Quiet" when the partners obtained his release from Jacob Litt by paying that manager \$20,000 for his services. It was reported last night that the comedian would be presented in London next spring in "On the Quiet." failures at the Bijou and then took up the

## New Star in an Ibsen Play.

France Hamilton, a young actress who appeared in one of the Belasco companies last year, will come forward as a star at the Manhattan Theatre on Tuesday after-noon, Feb. 2. She will present Ibsen's noon, Feb. 2. She will present Ibsen's play. "A Doll's House," and will have the assistance of a number of well-known actors. Emily Leicester of London will direct the

GRUESOME NEW GRUNDY PLAY MRS. HOFFMAN ASKS DIVORCE. | CHU QUON, COMEDIAN, DEAD, Daughter of W. Watts Sherman Files

Papers in Newport. NEWPORT, R. I., Dec. 30.-It is learned that Mrs. J. Ellis Hoffman is to sue for divorce in the Rhode Island courts and that

her case will come up for a hearing in the May term of the Appellate Division. Mrs. the Piece Is a Bad Conglomeration Hoffman before her marriage was Miss Sybil Sherman, the daughter of William Watts Sherman.

Mrs. Hoffman has resided in Newport the greater part of her life up to the time presented an animated appearance. The of her marriage, several years ago, and at assassins disguised as critics-all warm the time it was reported that her family was opposed to the match. Since her marriage Mrs. Hoffman has spent much of her time abroad, but last fall returned to "Gypsy" was by Sydney Grundy and bought Newport, where she has since lived. It was then rumored that she was to bring divorce proceedings, and it is now learned hat she has filed papers alleging desertion and praying for the custody of her child. The law of Rhode Island requires a resi-

dence in the State of two years to secure a divorce, but it is understood that Mrs. Hoffman claims that Newport has always been her home and that she has no other legal place of residence. Mr. Hoffman is the son of Mrs. George Hoffman and is

"THE MESSIAH" ONCE MORE. Handel's Masterpiece Creditably Performed by the Oratorio Society.

The annual Christmastide performances

of Handel's "Messiah" were given at Cernegie Hall on Tuesday afternoon and last night. The solo singers were Mme. Blauvelt, soprano; Miss Janet Spencer, alto; George Hamlin, tenor, and David Bispham, barytone. The chorus, reduced in numbers, parytone. The chorus, reduced in numbers, has been improved in quelity. The orchestra was a part of Walter Demosch's New York Symphony Orchestra and, of course, Frank Damrosch conducted. Just exactly what is to be said about the annual performance of "The Messiah" in the dawn of the twentieth century is a question. There the work stands, and it speaks for itself. One thing is extraordinary, and this is that the tempi which have become fixed in this city are so different from

come fixed in this city are so different from those employed in London, the home of oratorio.

Mr. Damrosch follows his brother, as his brother followed his father, in this matter. "For unto us a son is born" and the "Hallelujah" he takes at a merry gait, and other choruses he slackens so that they become long drawn and, to speak the truth, tiresome. In the course of time these will come to be known as the American tempi, and learned commentators will give satisfying reasons for their existence. Meanwhile it would be interesting to know what European critics would think of them.

The chorus last night sang well and

European critics would think of them.

The chorus last night sang well and skated over the rough places with success. The Prout orchestration was employed again, and it sounded clear and well balanced. Of the soloists the new-comer was Miss Spencer, who disclosed a contral to voice of fine quality and volume.

Her coloring of tone is not always good. Her coloring of tone is not always good, good especially in the upper middle register. The audience was very large.

### CARUSO IN A COLLISION.

The Tenor Comes Back From Philadelphia With His Head in Bandages.

There is a family friend, a tame tabby cat, a British Parsifal, who sits a live lady on his lap with perfect impunity. This disappointed bachelor of social arts, and a His valet had been prevented from taking the trip with his master by an accident which disabled both of them temporarily The Philadelphia season of opera opened on Tuesday night with Mme. Sembrich and MM. Caruso and Scotti in "Rigoletto." As M. Caruso was on the way to the Liberty

street ferry his carriage, turning into West street, collided with a trolley car.

The window was shattered and the tenor's head eeverely out on one side. His valet, who was seated next to him, was thrown forward through the glass pane, cutting his face badly. He returned to the Hotel Wiestly Signor Carriag who knew that Majestic. Signor Caruso, who knew that he had to sing, got into another carriage and was driven to the ferry in time to catch the train for Philadelphia.

company, whose object is to produce classics and high class modern plays here with a stock company, was incorporated yesterday with these officers: President and managing director, Mr. Rosenfeld; vice-president, Frank Fuller; secretary and treasurer, Richard A. Purdy; other directors, Isaac L. Rice, David B. Sickles and Louis E. Lehmaier.

In February, Mr. Rosenfeld said, the company will produce a classic, possibly company will produce a classic, possibly "Twelfth Night," and that this will be followed by a play which William Dean How-

"Aida" at the Metropolitan.

Verdi's "Aida," which has been very frequent of late, was repeated last night, at the Metropolitan Opera House. The cast was the same as the opera has enjoyed on previous occasions this season. Mme. Gadski and Mme. Walker were the ladies of the cast and Mane. Walker were the lattice of the cast and Messrs. Caruso, Campanari, Plançon and Muhlmann, the gentlemen. The performance moved with spirit and was enjoyed by a large audience. This afternoon at 5 o'clock the second perforance of "Parsif. I will begin.

UNIVERSITY DANCES.

A Series Organized by Young College Men

Begins at Sherry's. The first of a new series of subscription dances, to be known as the University Cotillons, was given at Sherry's last night. John Sloane, Jr.: John H. Auerbach, August John Sloane, Jr.; John H. Aueroach, August Belmont, Jr.; Percy H. Jennings, Thomas D. Thatcher, Alfred Wagstaff, Jr.; Henry C. de Rham, Edmund P. Rogers, Albert J. Askin, Alfred Ely, Jr.; Alexander D. B. Pratt and Chalmers Wood have organized the dances. Last night's was held in the small ballroom. The cotillon was led by William O'Donell Iselin and Alexander D. B. Pratt Among the favors were ribbon. B. Pratt. Among the favors were ribbon shoulder knots of different college colors, long stemmed American Beauty roses tied with ribbons, university persons. ith ribbons, university pennants on long ilded sticks, and white leather card cases. The walls were decorated with university flags in groups and laurel wreaths tied with ribbon.

JEROME SYKES'S FUNERAL

Be Held on Sunday in the Masonle Temple-Body to Get Here To-day.

The funeral services of Jerome Sykes, late star of Klaw & Erlanger's production of "The star of Klaw & Erlanger's production of "The Billionaire," will take place in the Grand Lodge room of the Masonic Temple, Sixth avenue and Twenty-fifth street, at 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The body left Chicago last night on the 11:30 o'clock train over the Pennsylvania Railroad, and will arrive here at 7:15 o'clock to-morrow morning. The funeral will be managed by Pacific Lodge, No. 233, of which Mr. Sykes was a member, through its acting chaplain, the Rev. George R. Van De Water, chaplain of the Grand Lodge. A quartet composed of Eugene Cowles, Ritchie Ling. Arthur Barry and George Tennery, personal friends of Mr. Sykes, will sing. The services will be public and the friends and admirers of Mr. Sykes are invited to attend. mirers of Mr. Sykes are invited to attend.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30 .- An unlimited ieposit of salt was discovered to-day on deposit of sait was discovered to-day of Cote Blanche Island, St. Mary's parish. The sait is 99 per cent. pure and lies only 100 feet from the surface and is from 2,000 to 2,500 feet thick, underlying practically the entire island. Sait had been discovered previously at Patel Anse Island and Belle Isle, and this new discovery is supposed to be part of the same bed. posed to be part of the same bed

CHINATOWN MOURNS ITS BEST ACTOR AND GAMEST SPORT.

Chu Quon Stood for an Hour and a Half in a Draught Without Moving and Got Pneumonia-An Actor in China and San Francisco Before He Came Here.

Chu Quon is dead and all Chinatown mourns silently-silently, because Chu Quon was an actor, and a Chinaman might lose caste by mourning openly for even a good

Chu Quon was a good actor. He was he star comedian of the Chinese Opera House at 5 Doyers street, and for years had nightly kept his audience from laughing for six and seven hours at a stretch-it's bad form to laugh at jokes in Chinatown.

The ordinary Chinese actor can render only about fifteen different tone shades between our full tone and our half tone. Chu Quon was master of more than twenty of these intermediate shades, so that he practically had a corner on several of the almost prohibitively difficult Chinese quips. Never were his qualities as a comedian

more severely taxed than in the little sixhour-long, three-thousand-year-old Chinese skit in which he made his last appearance. He was cast for the part of Mummy, and in this rôle he sacrificed his life to his art.

As Mummy he was required to stand, to the accompaniment of cymbals, wooden conga and shrill ripes for an hour and a

to the accompaniment of cymbals, wooden gongs and shrill pipes, for an hour and a half without moving a muscle.

At the end of the first hour he became conscious that h was standing in a strong draught. But if he were to move it would kill the humor of the situation for the hundreds of Chinamen crowded in the little pew-like benches in the orchestra.

So Chu stuck it out.

As a result he contracted is severe cold on the chest. But even this could not keep him from his art. On Tuesday night he got out of bed in his Chatham Square lodgings and insisted that he must go to the theatr. He fell helpless in the arms of Jim Ling, the manager, and soon after was removed to the Hudson street hospital. He died yesterday morning.

Chu Quon first showed his remarkable

tal. He died yesterday morning.

Chu Quon first showed his remarkable ability when a boy in China. He could stand absolutely motionless for hours at a time or he could talk incessantly all day long and finish up with his voice just as loud as when he started.

He came to this country about fifteen years ago and for a time made a great hit in San Francisco in the plays of Confucius. These, however, did not give his ability as a comedian as much scope as the older Chinese plays which he took up soon after

as a comedian as much scope as the older Chinese plays which he took up soon after his arrival in New York.

Although the mourning for Chu Quon among his countrymen is silent, the white residents of Chinatown are frank in their grief. He was being freely eulogized yesterday as "the only real Chink sport in the butch," "a swell spender" and "a good fellow."

And these tributes were merited, for after his art, in which he was past master, his chief delights were fan-tan, Melican whiskey and the seductive pipe.

For years he frequently announced his intention of starting in to save money so that he might return to his old home in China. But Chu was too good a spender ever to realize this ambition

FLEEING TELLER CAUGHT.

Man Under 30 Years Sentence in Chile Found as a Sallor on a Steamer.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30 .- At the end of a 10,000 mile break for freedom, Russell Beckett, a former London business man and teller in the Bank of Tarapaca at Iquique, Chile, who is under sentence of thirty years imprisonment for embezzling \$15,000, was arrested upon his arrival here to-day. He had shipped as a seaman on the British steamship Walden Abbey.

Four detectives boarded the Abbey off Reedy Island last night. They searched among the crew and finally recognized Beckett from a photograph, despite a beard which he had allowed to grow. detectives telegraphed to the police boat Asbridge to meet the steamship at Marcus Hook, as the formal arrest under the State

Probably to Be "Twelfth Night"—Howells
Play Next—Company Incorporated.
Sydney Rosenfeld, the playwright, announced last night that his Century Theatre
Company, whose object is to produce classics

warrant could not be served until the Abbey passed Marcus Hook.

The warrant for the arrest was sworn to by E. W. S. Tingle, the Chilean Consul at this port. Beckett is about 25 years old and comes of a good English family. He first became a clerk in the London office the bank. His exemplary habits and of the bank. His exemplary habits and ability soon won him favor, and about a year ago he was sent out to Chile as head of the English department. He spent money lavishly and dressed in the extreme of fashion. His salary, he let it be under-stood, was merely pocket money, and nis real income came from an estate in

Officers of the bank, astonished at the prodigality of the young man, wrote to England to get definite information about his estate. Word came back that Beckett arned no lands and had no income of that whed no lands and had no income of that kind. Experts were put to work on his books during the night. Shortages were found, and just as the police were about to arrest him in August he disappeared. Three weeks later Beckett was caught as he was trying to leave the country and was taken to Iquique for trial. He was convicted of several crimes, including embezzlement, falsification of books, and, it is said, forgery. He was sentenced to serve thirty years in prison.

He won the confidence of the jailer within week and was allowed invested to reserve the confidence of the party within a week and was allowed invested.

a week and was allowed unusual privileges about the prison.

One day he found the jailer asleep. Beck

ett took the keys of the jail from the man's pocket, tied him securely to the couch and departed. Disguising himself, he shipped aboard the Walden Abbey just as was about to sail for Philadelphia.

Christmas Greeting From Admiral Cervera. ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 80.-The Rev. Joseph A. Kautz, rector of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church of this city, is in receipt of a letter from Vice-Admiral Cervera of Spain, with Christmas greetings. The Admiral also sent greetings to Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore. Admiral Cervera was a prisoner at the Naval Academy after the Spainh American Was

The Weather.

Fair weather prevailed over all the country yesterday, save for a few snow flurries in the morn-ing in this region, and northward over New York o Lake Erie, as well as on the coast of Maine There were no storms and the pressure was high in the Central and Southern States and over the Central Rocky Mountain States. The temperature was higher, except in the upper Mississippi valley, where it was 14 to 26 degrees colder; the lowest temperature reported was 18 degrees below zero. at Northfield, Vt.

In this city the day was partly cloudy, with a light fall of snow in the morning, fair in the afternoon; wind fresh northwest to southwest; average humidity 75 per cent., barometer, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M., 30.01; 3 P. M., 30.01. The temperature yesterday, as recorded by th

official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table 9 A. M. 24° 32° 6 P. M. 12 M. 26° 55° 9 P. M. 3 P. M. 27° 57° 12 Mid. WASHINGTON FOR ECASTFOR TO DAY AND TO MORROW. For eastern New York, increasing cloudiness and warmer to-day, probably followed by snow; to-morrow,

fair fresh west winds, becoming variable For the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, fair and warmer to-day; partly cloudy o-morrow; variable winds. For eastern Pennsylvania, increasing cloudiness and warmer to day, probably snow in north and west portions; partly cloudy to-morrow; fresh

northwest winds becoming variable. For New England, increasing cloudiness to-day, followed by snow and warmer in west portion and at night in east portion; fair to-morrow; fresh to brisk southwest to south winds. For Delaware, fair and warmer to-day; partly

ing variable. For western New York, snow to-day and prob ably to-morrow; fresh to brisk south winds. For New Jersey, partly cloudy and warmer to-day, probably followed by snow in north portion; fair to morrow; fresh west winds, becoming variable. PUBLICATIONS.

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WIDOW OF DU BOIS APPEARS

WITH DAUGHTER, IVY BLANCHE M'KEE, TO CONTEST THE WILL.

They Say That the Old School Principal, So Long Estranged From Them, Failed to Support Them-\$10,000 Left to Daughter Out of \$500,000.

Mrs. Julia V. DuBois and Mrs. Ivy Blanche McKee, widow and daughter of Alpheus D. DuBois, the retired school teacher, who died on Dec. 13 last, have come to New York and have begun a contest in the Surrogates' Court over the old teacher's estate. An affidavit made by counsel for the contestants shows that Mr. DuBois was worth fully \$500,000 at the time of his death, all invested in stable securities.

Alpheus DuBois was 77 years old when he died, and had lived apart from his wife and daughter for many years. He was ignorant of even their residence or of his daughter's married name. In his will which was drawn about six months ago at Ossining, he bequeathed \$10,000 to his daughter and distributed \$18,000 among several of the young women teachers of Grammar School 36, of which he had been principal for fifty-three years. These young women used to visit him when he was ill at his home, 67 Irving place, where he lived practically in seclusion.

Other minor bequests were made by the testator to relatives, and the residuary estate was divided between his sisters, Mary D. Jones and Caroline D. Seaman. Mrs. DuBois was not mentioned in the will. When the application for probate was made before Surrogete Thomas vesterday a clerk from the office of Manierre & Manierre, counsel for Mrs. DuBois and her daughter, asked for an adjournment because of the death of Mrs. Benjamin F. Manierre, mother of the lawyers. The adjournment was granted after the formal testimony of the subscribing witnesses had been taken.

Mrs. DuBois will allege, it was said yes terday, that while she was estranged from her husband, though no divorce or separation had been legally procured, he utterly failed to support her or her daughter. It is said that some curious developments will mark the resumption of the hearing.

WANT THROUGH TRAINS AGAIN Jamaica People Will Ask the Aldermen to Restore the Service.

The residents of the Jamaica section, who the through elevated service on the Broadway line from Broadway ferry to Jamaica was discontinued, on Dec. 8, in respons as they admit, to an appeal to the Board of Aldermen by a certain business element of the section between East New York and Jamaica, yesterday sent out broadcast a petition to the Aldermen asking that some action be taken that will permit the Brook-lyn Rapid Transit Company to resume

lyn Rapid Transit Company to resume the service that gave a great majority complete satisfaction.

Frederick Dunton of Hollis and W. H. Thornberry of Jamaica, it is understood, have the matter in charge. More than 3,000 signatures had been obtained. Among the signers are several of the business men, who, it is said, find that the abandonment of the through service has affected their business adversely.

The Jamaica Avenue Association, com-

The Jamaica Avenue Association, composed of merchants and property owners, are opposed to the plan to restore the service and have propared a statement, which is being freely circulated, warning residents that it will, if resumed, ruin that section of the city.

COPS SEEK REINSTATEMENT.

Four of Them Ask the Court to Review Their Dismissal.

Patrolmen F. H. Langden, Charles Voss and John A. Jaeger and Roundsman P. W. Meehan, all of whom were recently dismissed from the police force by Commissioner Greene, obtained yesterday, through their counsel, L. J. Grant, writs of certiorar or the review by the Appellate Division f their dismissa Meehan was dismissed on charges of Meenan was dismissed on charges of having substituted papers at his exami-nation for promotion to a sergeancy. The three patrolmen were dismissed on charges of having committed perjury at a

George Alfred Lamb on His Defence.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court named George N. Abbott yesterday as referee to hear testimony and report on he charges brought against George Alfred Lamb by the Bar Association. The charges include fraud, malpractice and unpro-fessional conduct, and Lamb is required to show why he should not be suspended from practice as an attorney-at-law. The hearings will probably be held at Mr. Abbott's office at 32 Nassau street. Lamb was counsel for Peter Power, the man in whose name proceedings were begun in enjoin the re-tirement of Northern Pacific preferred

Explosion of Natural Gas in a General Store SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 30 .- When G. W. Davis of Baldwinsville started to light the ga in his general store this morning a terrific explosion took place which ripped his over-coat from his back. In an instant the store was in flames and was soon burned down. An adjoining store also was badly damage Natural gas had escaped during the night

Cheaper Telephone Tolls for the Oranges EAST ORANGE, N. J. Dec. 30 .- Beginning with the New Year, the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company will reduce telephone rates in the Orange district. The present rate is \$30 for a service of 500 mes-sages a year. Unlimited service will be given for the same rate. The direct line charge has been reduced from \$75 to \$54.

Lightning Hits Henry Clews's Newport House.

Henry Clews received word yesterday that his Newport residence, The Rocks, had been struck by lightning. The bolt hit the tower of the house, but did no very serious damag

# NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW

EDITED BY GEORGE HARVEY

January, 1904. Out today.

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LAST WEEK.

EXTRA MAINEE TO MORROW.

CHARLES FROHMAN pres made

WHITEWASHING JULIA MARY MANNERING HARRIET'S HONEYMOON

FELL DEAD IN BRIDGE CRUSH.

nders Last Charge at Sands Street, After Fifteen Years of Bridge Crossing. John Sanders, a brass finisher, 64 years old, of 909 Crescent street, Astoria, dropped dead in the crowd at the Brooklyn entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge yesterday morning. He had been a daily traveller over the Bridge for fifteen years and was accustomed elbowing his way through the crush. He left home apparently in his usual health, and at the Sands street entrance joined the jostling throng. Suddenly he began to stagger. Before the crowd could resent what it first regarded as unusual pushing on the part of Sanders, his knees gave out and he sank to the platform dead. The

crowd backed away and the police removed the body.

Ingenious and exclusive methods only can successfully combat the fiercer competition that is yet to come. Stephen T. Williams, Business Engineer, 346 Broadway, (N. Y. Life Bldg.), Administrative, Departmental and Office problems booklet free.

BELIGIOUS NOTICES. WATCH NIGHT MEETING. ON AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH. hursday Evening from 9 to 12. Rev. Dr. Lorimer ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, N. Y. Stuyvesant Square. Rev. W. S. Ralnaford, D. D., rector. Watch night service New Year's Eve, at 11 o'clock, followed by thely Communion at 12 P. M. All seats free. Doors will be closed at 11:39 P. M.

AMUSEMENTS.

CRITERION THEATRE, B way & 44th St. Evenings 8:20. Mats 2:15.

THE OTHER CIRL

GARDEN THEATRE, 27th St. & Mad. Av. Evgs. 8. Mat. 2. OVERWHELMING TRIUMPH! **ELEANOR ROBSON** MERELY MARY ANN

assisted by EDWIN ARDEN and an Extraordinary Company.

"The play might well be re-christened 'Merely a Woman's Soul.'—Times.

"Here at last we have a real play, a genuine fragment of the comprehensive comedy of human calistence.—Fost."

"Sinlies and terrs, laughs and sobs are compelled by the witchery of the playwright, and the sorcery of the sympathetic and pathetic Mary Ann.—Press.

"Miss Robson made the eyeglasses of case-hardened firstnighters dim, and that is indeed a tribute."—Herald.

"Nalvete, gentle humor, and just the right touch of pathos make Miss Robson's Mary Ann a living, lovable thing."—Telegram.

"Gne of the sweetest plays that has been heard here in a long time and Eleanor Robson is charming in the title role."—Telegram.

"Miss Robson triumphs. In a part that fits her to perfection. She shows one of the eleverest performances seen in a long time."—Evening World.

"It suggests, Dickens with its faithful transcript of a shabby grateel logging house, and

World.
"It suggests Dickens with its faithful transcript of a shabby genteel lodging house and its tender hearted 'Slavey,' with the romantic composer is the foreground. The 'Slavey' may be the hand of Dickens, the composer is the voice of Zancwill, but the china is Robertson's,"—Sun.

REGULAR MATINEE SATURDAY. VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, 44th, W. of 5th Av Evgs. 8:30, Mat. Sat., 2:15 LAST 3 NIGHTS. EXTRA MATINEE (TO-MORROW. CHARLES FROHMAN presents

NME. CHARLOTTE WIEHE AND FRENCH COMPANY JE NE SAIS QUOI

HERALD SO. THEATRE, B'way & 35th St.
CHARLES FROHMAN Manager
EXTRA MATINEE TO-MORROW,
CHARLES FROHMAN & GEORGE EDWARDES

THE GIRL FROM KAYS

THE SUNDAY SYMPHONY CONCERTS. ARNEGIE N.Y.SYMPHONY
SUNDAT 3. ORCHESTRA ORCHESTRA WALTER DAMROSCH, Conductor.

5TH SYMPHONY BEETHOVEN, Melstersinge selections, Orchestral and Vocal, with Emil Pische as Hans Sachs, etc., etc. Scats, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c box office and Ditson's. American Ev. 8:80. Special Matinee To morrow.
STH BIG WEEK.
OUR NEW MINISTER.
NEXT SUNDAY—Ted Marks' Concert.

KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE, B'way & 38th St Evgs. at 8. Mats. To-morrow & Sat. at 2:15. "A GIR Edged ANNA HELD IN MAM'SELLE TRIUMPH." ANNA HELD IN MAM'SELLE BELASCO THEATRE. EVes. 8. Mats. BELASCO'S NEW YES. & Sat. HENRIETTA CROSMAN IN DAVID BELASCO'S NEW DIAY. BELLAIRS. STAR Lex.Av. & 107th Mat. To m rr w & Sat THE CHILD WIFE. Next week, At Cripple Creek.

3RD AVE. Mat. To-day. "Two Little Walfs." ALIMONY FOR MRS. A. L. J. SMITH

She Is to Have \$50 a Weck-Husband Won' Speak to Wife. Arthur L. J. Smith of 110 Prospect Park South, who is being sued for a separation by his wife, Florence Thayer Smith, on the ground of cruelty, has been ordered by Supreme Court Justice Fitzgerald to pay her \$50 a week attmony and \$250 counse her 530 a week amony and \$250 counsel fee perding the trial of her suit. They have one child, a son 9 years old. Notwithstanding their matrinonial differences the Smiths continue to live in the same house, but Mrs. Smith says that her husband refuses to talk to her or recognize her existence.

69th's Armory Contract Awarded. The Armory Board vesterday awarded the contract for the building of the new Sixty-ninth Regiment armory to the James D. Murphy Construction Company. This com-pany.was the lowest bidder at \$405,266.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE.
Grand Opera Season 1903-1904.
Under Direction of Mr. Heinrich Conried.
To-day at 8 o'clock P. M precisely-2d performance of PARSIFAL. Termina, Homer; Burgstaller, Van Rooy, Blass, Gorliz, Journet. Conductor, Hertz.
To-morrow, Fri. Per. AMUSEMENTS. staller, Van Hooy, Blass, Goritz, Journet. Conductor, Hertz.

To-morrow, Fri. Evg., Jan. 1, at \$\frac{\pi}{2}\$—IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA. Sembrich: Dippel, Campanari, Journet, Rossi. Conductor, Vigna.

Sat. 4ft., Jan. 2, at 2=PAGLIACCI and CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA. Seygard: Caruso, Scotti,
Reiss, Guardabassi—Gadski, Homer, Bauermeister:
Dippel, Campanari. Conductor, Vigna.

Sat. Evg., Jan. 2, at \$\frac{\pi}{2}\$—POp. Prices).—TANNHAEUSER. Fremstad, Kronold, Delsarta: KrausGoritz, Plancon, Muhlmann, Bars, Relss, Dufrich.

Conductor, Motti.

Sun. Evg., Jan. 3, at \$\frac{\pi}{2}\$30 (Pop. prices).

SixTH GRAND SUNDAY NIGHT CONCERT.

Mon. Evg., Jan. 1, at \$\frac{\pi}{2}\$30 (A. Terpina; Caruso,
Scott, Rossi. Dufriche. Conductor, Vigna.

Scott, Rossi. Dufriche. Conductor, Vigna.

Mon. Fyg., Jan. J. at 8, TOSCA. Ternina; Caruso, Scottl. Rossi, Dufriche. Conductor, Vigna. Wed. Evg., Jan. 6, at 8-IL BARBIERE DI SI-VIGILIA. Sembrich: Dippel, Campanari, Journet, Rossi. Conductor, Vigna. Thurs., Jan. 7, at 8 P. M. precisely—Third performance of PARSIFAL. Weed; Burgstaller, Van Rooy, Blass, Goritz, Journet. Conductor, Hertz. Fri. Evg., Jan. 8, at 8-LUCIA DI LAMMER. MOOR. Sembrich: Caruso, Campanari, Journet, Nam. Conductor, Vigna. PARSIFAL, POSITIVELY LAST 5 TIMES. Thursdays, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 and 11; Tuesday, Feb. 16; Thursday, Feb. 25. Sale of seats for last 5 perform-ances begins Mon. Jan. 4, at 0 A. M. WEBER PIANO USED.

IRVING PLACE THEATRE To-day, Fri. & Sat., last 3 Children Mats., "PUSS IN BOOTS" To-night 8:20, "LOS VOM MANNE" NEW AMSTERDAM | Wed. & Sat. at 2.

42d St. West of Bway. | Ever.ngs at 8.

KLAW & FRLANGER | Wanger at 8.

XTRA HOLIDAY MATINEF TO-MORROW

KLAW & ERLA' GER'S Greatest, Mother Goose

NEW YORK B'way, 44th-45th Sta.
BERTHA CALLAND
Last Mat. To-morrow & 3at. Prices 50, 1.00, 1.50
Beginning Next Tuesday, Jan. 5th. Scats To-day
CHAUNCEY OLCOTT
In his new play, TERENCE BROADWAY THEATRE, 41st St. & B. way.
BROADWAY THEATRE, 41st St. & B. way.
Eves, at 8:30, Mat. Sat, at 2:18.
FRITZI SCHEFF Last 2 Weeks.

VICTORIA FRANK DANIELS
Sat. & To-morrow. In The Office Bey. Monday LEW DOCKSTADER'S BIG MINSTRELS Seats New on

PROCTOR'S To-day, 25c., 50c. To-night, Res. 75c. 23d St. Continuous Vande. Staley & Birbeck. Wormwood's Animals Harry Watson 5th Ave. | Big Stock Cast. Continuous Vande. 58th St. Geo. Primrose Foley Twins, He wanting DAILY. 125th St. S"What Happened to Jones".

Big Stock Cast. Big Vaudeville.

RESERVED SEATS ON SALE IN ADVANCE.

BOX OFFICES OPEN 9:30 A.M. TO 19:30 P. M.

Early Opening all Houses New Year's Day.

CASINO MAL TO-MITTIVE SAL.
PAULA EDWARDES | WINSOME WINNIE Princess Theatre Mat. To-dy. To-mw.Sat.2.
KYRLE BELLEWAMALER Cracksman. MADISON SQ. B'way & 24.Mat. To-d'y&Tm'w VRICEAST'S TIMES. Mats. Fri. & Sat. 218.
LYRICEVES.8:15 VanStuddilord Red
GRACE VanStuddilord Peathor" BERTHA GALLAND "Dorothy Verner of Haddon Hall."

MADISON SQUARE CARDEN
THE FETE DAYS OF ROME OUTDONE
THE FETE DAYS OF ROME OUTDONE Magnificently formed women, superity developments of the property of the prope

Manhailan B'way & 33d St. Evgs. at 8t. 8. 22 CHARLES RICHMAN Captain Barrington TIES. | THE VIRGINIAN | SEATT. JAN. 8 | Entire Orchestra, \$1.60; Balcony, \$1.60 and Prices Entire Orchestra, \$1.50; Balcony, \$1.50; \$1.00; 2nd Balcony, 75 and 50 cents.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, 14th St. and Irving Pl. MATINEE NEW YEAR'S DAY. Way Down East Prices 25.50,75.1.00. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2. Eve. 3:15.
SUNDAY Walter Damrosch and his entire
EVENING New York Symphony Orchestre.
Programme includes Excerpts from PARSIFAL.

WALLACK'S B'way & 20 St. Evgs. & 20.

NEW YEAR'S MATINEE TO MORROW.

FUNNIEST PLAY IN TOWN."—TIMES.

GEO. ADE'S quaint comedy. THE COUNTYCHAIRMAN WEST END HENRY W. SAVAGE'S English Grand Opers Co.

To-night, New Year's Mat. and Sat. Night, To-morrow Evg. & TROVATOR Saturday Matinec, Neat Week—"TOSCA" and "LOHENGRIN TROVATORE K NEISEL QUARTET

MAXINE ELLIOTT OPERA IN "HER OWN WAY."

The Earl of Pawtucket Scats Now on Sale.

ST. NICHOLAS RINK. ICE SKATING OPEN DAILY EXCEPT MONDAYS.
Skates free.

MAJESTIC BWAY & EVE. 8. Mat. 2 sharp.

BABES IN TOYLAND Mat. Daily THIS

TOYS FOR

THE CHILDREN GIRCLE Broadway and 60th st.
LADIES' MAT. DAILY.
ROYAL VENETIAN BAND OF 40, COLE
A JOHNSON, T. NELSON DOWNS, SIDNEY GRANT, HARRIGAN, ARTESTO, others.

THE MATINEE TO-DAY. DEWEY BOWERY BURLESQUERS SUNDAY NIGHT-Grand Concert-25c., 50c. WEBER & FIELDS' MUSIC | B'WAY BOTH at. Eyes, at 8. Mais. | "Whrop-Des-Doo" "Walles!"

Tues. & Sat. | Willow Jos-Jos Wala. Extra New Year's Matinee To-morrow. PASTOR'S 14th St., near 3d Ave. CONTINUOUS.
HOWARD & BLAND, 4 NELSON COMIQUES,
4 SULLY FAMILY, CARLETON & TERRY. KEITH'S and SO-GREAT ACTS-BONE New Year's Day Doors Open 19:30 A. M.

HURTIG & SEAMON'S 175th # "." NEW YEAR'S MATINEE TO-MORROW 14th St. Theatre. Mais. Wed., Sat. & New Year's WEEKS ROBERT EMMET, The Days ONLY. ROBERT EMMET, of 1808.

GRAND ROGERS BROS. | Mats. New Year's affat. HIRTHEAL Lex. av. & 42d st., New Year's
LOUISE BEATON as Matines
"RACHEL GOLDSTEIN"? Tomorrew EDEN WORLD IN WAX. New Groups.
IN US EE Extra attraction Holiday Weeks.

STEREOPTICON VIEWS with discussion thereos Practical Science. American Institute Polytech In Section, 19 W. 4th st., this Thursday evening Admission free.